

**Office of Oceanic & Atmospheric Research
Impacts of FY 2003 Congressional Action**

in \$K	FY2002 Enacted	FY2003 Request	FY 2003 Request w/o CSRS	FY 2003 Senate Mark	FY 2003 House Mark	FY 2003 Conf. Mark
ORF	\$356,062	\$296,962	\$290,853	\$395,685	XXXX,XXX	\$372,305
PAC	\$19,700	\$10,584	\$10,584	\$17,119	XXXX,XXX	\$17,337
OTHER	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	XXXX,XXX	\$0
TOTAL	\$375,762	\$307,546	\$301,437	\$412,804	XXXX,XXX	\$389,642

CONFERENCE MARK

OVERALL:

The conference mark for NOAA Research (OAR) provides a \$13.9 million net increase over the FY 2002 enacted level, or a 3.7% increase. Included were several high-priority increases; among the most notable were full funding of the President's \$18 million Climate Change Research Initiative (CCRI), the \$2 million SEARCH initiative, the \$1 million requested increase for USWRP, and the retention of the National Sea Grant College Program in NOAA Research (vs. NSF). NOAA Research also received unrequested increases, including \$5 million for AIRMAP, \$8 million for Ocean Health Initiative, an additional \$6 million for construction of the Norman Weather Facility, and \$1 million for planning and design of a new Barrow Observatory. More details on the appropriation are shown in the accompanying table. Finally, language on the use of Joint Institutes (JI) was inserted into the bill which will greatly facilitate NOAA Research use of JI scientists during FY 2003. Note that while this language addresses all the problems raised by the Department of Commerce General Counsel, it has been determined to be a one year fix. We continue to look for a more permanent solution.

The conference action for NOAA Research contains \$24 million in direct decreases, requires NOAA Research to absorb about 90% of our required adjustments to base, imposes an agency-wide 0.65% rescission, and a 78% share of the \$4.5 million Boulder rent cut. Other, yet-to-be-distributed cuts from outside of the OAR budget activity may further impact the OAR budget or program (e.g. reduction in CAMS accounting system funding, reduction of days at sea for NOAA Charter vessels) A reduction in 2 lines of SEC funding of \$2.236M cuts the laboratory base funding by 30% from its '02 level.. Finally, many of OAR's grant programs are expected to use carryover from FY 2002 (most of which is already spent or committed) as offsets for FY 2003 expenditures (e.g., \$2M in Sea Grant, \$0.8M in Ocean Exploration, and \$0.22M in the National Undersea Research Program). All of these factors result in a highly constrained budget situation for NOAA Research in FY 2003. Impacts of significant decreases are described below:

Issue - Adjustments to Base (ATB's)

Request \$5,001K Mark \$519K

SUBACTIVITY - Climate Research

Line Item - Laboratories & Joint Institutes

PPA - Space Environment Center: Laboratory Base

Request \$274K Mark \$0K

PPA's - AOML, CMDL, & PMEL: Base Restorations for Climate Observing Systems

Request \$558K - AOML (\$217K), CMDL (\$125K), PMEL (\$216K) Mark \$0K

Line Item - Climate & Global Change

SUBACTIVITY - Weather & Air Quality Research

Line Item - Laboratories & Joint Institutes

PPA - Space Environment Center (SEC): Laboratory Base Program

Request \$7,971K Mark \$5,208K

PPA - SEC: Modernization of SEC Operational Forecasting Services

Request \$210K Mark \$0K

PPA - FSL: Base Restoration for the NOAA Profiler Network

Request \$175K Mark \$0K

Line Item - U.S. Weather Research Program

PPA - Energy Security Program Initiative

Request \$6,100K Mark \$0K (largely offset by restoration of two \$3 million forecasting pilot programs under the NWS budget)

Line Item - Other Weather & Air Quality Research Partnership Programs

PPA - Tornado/Severe Storm Research (Phased-Array Radar)

Request \$1,000K Mark \$0K

SUBACTIVITY - Ocean, Coastal, & Great Lakes Research

Line Item - National Sea Grant College Program

PPA - Sea Grant Base

Request: \$0K Mark: \$54,056K (reduction of \$2,354,000 from FY 2002 appropriation)

Line Item - National Undersea Research Program (NURP)

PPA - NURP Base Program

Request: \$K 13,921 Mark: \$K 13,462

Line Item - Ocean Exploration

PPA - Ocean Exploration Base Program

Request: \$K 14, 233 Mark: \$K 13,114

Line Item - Ocean, Coastal, & Great Lakes Research / Other Partnership Programs

PPA - NOAA Marine Aquaculture Program

Request: \$2,621K Mark: \$0K

ACTIVITY - NOAA Program Support

Line Item - Facilities

PPA - Boulder Facilities Operations

Request \$4,500K Mark \$0K

ACTIVITY - Procurement, Acquisition, & Construction (PAC)

Line Item - OAR

PPA - Comprehensive Large-Array Data Stewardship System (CLASS)

Request \$3,600K Mark \$2,881K